

# Labor Resources for Spartanburg, South Carolina

## Executive Summary

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This profile contains information about the labor force within a 30 minute and 45 minute commuting distance from the center of Spartanburg, South Carolina. Spartanburg is located in Spartanburg County, South Carolina.

The profile examines three issues: labor force characteristics, the availability of labor, and the average wages and salaries in the community of Spartanburg.

## Labor Situation at a Glance in Spartanburg, South Carolina

Labor Force Characteristics	within 30 min.	within 45 min.	South Carolina
Population, 2004	342,049	632,736	4,198,068
Labor Force, 2004	176,801	358,362	2,046,179
Availability of Labor	within 30 min.	within 45 min.	South Carolina
Unemployed Workers, 2004	12,722	22,377	139,607
Unemployment Rate, 2004	7.2%	7.1%	6.8%
Workers Affected by Layoffs (Past 2 Years)	1,078	1,914	22,196
Average Wages	Spartanburg County	South Carolina	United States
2003 Avg. Weekly Wage	\$641	\$581	\$658

## Labor Force Characteristics for Spartanburg, South Carolina

The composition and size of a community's labor force is linked very closely with demographic and economic conditions and trends in the region. The following labor force profile provides basic information on the population base and labor force characteristics so that the reader can better assess labor force conditions in the community.

Labor Force			
	30 min. Drive time	45 min. Drive time	South Carolina
Labor Force 2004	176,801	358,362	2,046,179
Change since 2000	3,712	44,811	49,079
Population			
Population 2004	342,049	632,736	4,198,068
Change since 2000	4,462	18,926	186,056
Projected 2010	203,540	580,653	4,446,704
Gender Distribution			
Male	165,644	306,716	2,040,261
Female	176,404	326,019	2,132,454
Age Distribution			
Ages 20-34	68,891	128,593	875,330
Ages 35-49	77,270	143,365	925,330
Ages 50-64	60,834	112,049	739,980
20-54 *Prime Working Age	169,426	314,257	2,084,880
Highest Level of Educational Attainment			
High School	101,576	185,328	778,054
Some College	70,786	124,511	500,194
Associate Degree	23,799	43,182	173,428
Bachelors Degree	39,595	83,878	351,526
Post Bachelor	18,781	39,198	178,529

*\*Prime working age group:*  
People between the ages of 18-54 are often referred to as the prime working age group. In staffing a new facility, prudent managers often prefer to staff its production work force with workers whose ages form a normal distribution curve. This provides for stability, flexibility and continuity of knowledge.

Source: 2004 Estimates Based on 2000 U.S. Census of Population and Woods and Poole, 2003 Edition

## Employment Characteristics for Spartanburg, South Carolina

Total Employment			
Year	30 min. Drive time	45 min. Drive time	South Carolina
2004	164,079	335,985	1,906,571

*Total Employment* data include all full and part-time wage and salaried workers in the area. These people may or may not reside in the area.

Monthly Employment by Sector In Spartanburg County			
Sector	30 min. Drive time	45 min. Drive time	South Carolina
<b>Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting</b>	<b>505</b>	<b>1,113</b>	<b>12,379</b>
<b>Mining</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>1,603</b>
<b>Utilities</b>	<b>223</b>	<b>854</b>	<b>11,891</b>
<b>Construction</b>	<b>4,739</b>	<b>14,273</b>	<b>111,730</b>
<b>Manufacturing</b>	<b>18,445</b>	<b>48,471</b>	<b>275,573</b>
Wood product manufacturing	74	549	8,371
Nonmetallic mineral product manufacturing	143	792	9,155
Primary metal manufacturing	2	123	6,317
Fabricated metal product manufacturing	1,433	4,043	27,357
Machinery manufacturing	789	3,938	21,278
Computer and electronic product manufacturing	335	1,108	7,666
Electrical equipment and appliance mfg.	699	1,323	10,748
Transportation equipment manufacturing	403	2,544	30,932
Furniture and related product manufacturing	1,302	1,852	4,225
Miscellaneous manufacturing	95	553	7,846
Food manufacturing	124	879	17,832
Beverage and tobacco product manufacturing		22	1,445
Textile mills	1,276	4,903	40,207
Textile product mills	270	1,419	9,724
Apparel manufacturing	226	707	5,321
Paper manufacturing	128	871	14,710
Printing and related support activities	193	777	7,327
Petroleum and coal products manufacturing		4	288
Chemical manufacturing	1,023	3,528	21,659
Plastics and rubber products manufacturing	1,255	6,048	23,054
<b>Wholesale Trade</b>	<b>2,079</b>	<b>8,454</b>	<b>62,523</b>
<b>Retail Trade</b>	<b>9,493</b>	<b>30,472</b>	<b>224,031</b>
<b>Transportation and Warehousing</b>	<b>2,499</b>	<b>8,700</b>	<b>46,941</b>
<b>Education and Health Services</b>	<b>13,007</b>	<b>40,421</b>	<b>156,232</b>
<b>Leisure and Hospitality</b>	<b>6,405</b>	<b>21,784</b>	<b>192,748</b>
<b>Professional and Business Services</b>	<b>7,445</b>	<b>30,043</b>	<b>186,481</b>

Source: 2003 Covered Wages, SC Employment Securities Commission

## Largest Industries by Total Employment In Spartanburg County, SC

Company Name	City	Primary Product/Service	Employment	Date Est.
BMW Manufacturing Co	Greer	Automobiles	4600	1994
Sealed Air Corp-Cryovac Div	Duncan	Plastic packaging material	1152	1962
Michelin North America Inc	Spartanburg	Radial truck tires	1132	1978
Kohler Co	Spartanburg	Porcelain, fiberglass plumbing fixtures	950	1958
Beverage Air	Spartanburg	Food & beverage cooling equipment	950	1958
AFL Telecommunications	Duncan	Fiber optic cable systems	670	1985
Tietex International Ltd	Spartanburg	Non woven material	645	1974
RR Donnelley	Spartanburg	Catalog printing & binding	640	1980
Spartanburg Steel Products	Spartanburg	Automotive stampings & assemblies	585	1992
Reeves Brothers Inc-PBG Plt	Spartanburg	Offset printing blankets	560	1975
BMG Entertainment	Duncan	Tapes & CDs	550	1981
Mrs Smith's Bakery	Spartanburg	Bakery products	500	1969
KoSa	Spartanburg	Polyester staple fibers	500	1998
Lockwood Greene Engineers	Spartanburg	Consulting engineers	450	1924
Hoke Inc	Spartanburg	Valve fittings & regulators	400	1988
Exopack LLC	Spartanburg	Plastic & paper bags, packaging materials	400	1957
Tyco Electronics Corp	Spartanburg	Electronic connectors	400	1971
Siemens Energy & Automation Inc	Roebuck	Busway systems	376	1968
Crowder Industrial	Spartanburg	Industrial construction & maintenance	350	
Mohawk Industries Inc-Landrum Plt	Landrum	Rugs & carpets	344	1956

### Employer-Employee Relationship

Employer-employee relations in South Carolina are very stable and the state consistently ranks as one of the least unionized in the nation. In 2004, only 4.5 percent of the state's workers were members of a labor union. Additionally, the state has consistently had one of the lowest work stoppage rates in the United States. On average, less than .01 percent of working time was lost due to strikes in manufacturing and non-manufacturing industries combined.

## Availability of Labor

### Labor Force Participation & Unemployment

Labor Force Participation & Unemployment			
Year	30 min. Drive time	45 min. Drive time	South Carolina
Labor Force (2004)	176,801	358,362	2,046,179
Labor Force Change from 2000	3,712	44,811	49,079
Labor Force Participation Rate	52%	57%	49%
Unemployment (2004)	12,722	22,377	139,607
Unemployment Rate	7.2%	7.1%	6.8%

The *labor force participation* rate is the percentage which results from dividing the labor force count by the total population.

*Unemployment* reflects the total number of persons who do not have a job and are actively seeking employment.

### Other Potential Sources of Labor Supply

Total Jobs Lost Due to Mass Closings and Layoffs Past Two Years			
Sector	30 min. Drive time	45 min. Drive time	South Carolina
Total	1,078	1,914	22,196
Manufacturing	956	1,581	19,196
Distribution	107	256	1,213
Service	15	77	1,745
Other	-	-	42

Recent closings and layoffs are a rich source of skilled and experienced labor for companies seeking to locate or expand in a given area. Industries in which layoffs and closings occur can provide some indication of the skills and knowledge-base of many unemployed and underemployed workers in a region.

Commuters to Other Areas			
	30 min. Drive time	45 min. Drive time	South Carolina
Commuters to other areas	28,484	54,387	31,833

Source: 2000 U.S. Census of Population

Workers commuting to places outside their resident are a significant source of experienced labor for new and expanding industries. These workers may be willing to consider an opportunity for employment nearer their place of residence.

## Recent Graduates of South Carolina's Colleges and Universities

<b>Certificates/Degrees Conferred From Technical Colleges in Select Degrees Within 45 Minute Drive Time of Spartanburg County, SC</b>	
Degree Area	Two Year Certificates/Degrees Conferred 2002 - 2004
Computer and Information Sciences (Total)	298
Data Processing Technology	298
Engineering Technologies (Total)	251
Electrical ,Electronic & Communications	54
Mechanical Engineering/Tech	33
Mechanic & Repair Technologies (Total)	773
Industrial Electronics	85
HVAC	215
Precision Production (Total)	223
Machine Tool Technology/Machinist	38

<b>Graduation From South Carolina's Four Year Colleges and Universities In Select Degrees</b>		
	Degrees Conferred (2002-2004)	
	Bachelors	Post- Grad
Computer and Information Science (Total)	910	108
Computer Engineering	150	149
Computer Programming	12	5
Engineering & Related Technologies (Total)	1,316	786
Chemical Engineering	136	38
Electrical Engineering	257	150
Industrial Engineering	78	44
Mechanical Engineering	268	95
Business Admin & Management	4,754	1,018
International Business/Trade	178	276

Source: South Carolina Commission on Higher Education

## Wages and Salaries

Average Wage and Salary Comparison			
Sector	Spartanburg County	South Carolina	United States
Avg. Weekly Wages*	\$641	\$581	\$658
Avg. Annual Salary*	\$33,344	\$30,240	\$37,508
Avg. Hourly Prod. Wages**	N/A	\$14.73	\$16.14

\*Covered Wages and Employment, 2003, SC Employment Securities Commission

\*\* Employment & Earnings, 2004, U.S. Department of Labor

Average Annual Salary Manufacturing Sectors, 2004		
Sector	Spartanburg County	South Carolina
Manufacturing Total	\$29,322	\$39,027
Wood product	***	\$30,808
Nonmetallic mineral product	***	\$39,031
Primary metal	***	\$49,695
Fabricated metal product	\$33,111	\$37,533
Machinery	\$31,268	\$39,952
Computer and electronic product	\$39,491	\$40,186
Electrical equipment and appliance	\$38,621	\$40,178
Transportation equipment	***	\$44,099
Furniture and related product	\$22,734	\$27,907
Miscellaneous	***	\$34,350
Food	***	\$26,620
Beverage and tobacco product	***	\$35,765
Textile mills	***	\$31,898
Textile product mills	***	\$25,618
Apparel	***	\$23,705
Paper	***	\$55,139
Printing and related support activities	\$20,326	\$36,634
Petroleum and coal products	***	\$49,113
Chemical	\$39,536	\$50,870
Plastics and rubber products	***	\$46,620

\*\*\*Indicates data suppressed

Source: Covered Wages and Employment, SC Employment Securities Commission

## Occupational Wages In Spartanburg and Surrounding Area

Average Hourly Wages of Employees by Selected Non-Exempt Occupations For Spartanburg Area			
Non-Exempt Occupations	Entry	Average	Experienced
Assemblers and Fabricators	\$ 8.07	\$ 10.00	\$ 11.63
Butchers and Meat Cutters	\$ 8.75	\$ 10.68	\$ 11.53
Cabinetmakers and Bench Carpenters	\$10.42	\$12.09	\$13.72
Chemical Equipment Operators	*	*	*
Chemical Plant & System Operators	\$12.11	\$13.69	\$14.99
Electrical & Electronic Equip Tenders	\$9.04	\$10.87	\$12.51
Extruding & Forming Machine Setters	*	*	*
Grinding & Lapping Machine Operators	*	*	*
Logging Equipment Operators	\$10.25	\$12.05	\$13.75
Installation, Maintenance & Repair	\$11.52	\$15.51	\$19.19
Machine Tool Setters & Tenders	\$9.91	\$12.80	\$15.27
Industrial Machinery Mechanics	\$14.53	\$18.41	\$22.73
Machinists	\$13.16	\$15.93	\$18.56
Packaging & Filling Machine Op	\$9.05	\$11.25	\$13.15
Molding & Casting Machine Op	\$8.37	\$10.24	\$11.08
Sewing Machine Operators	\$8.17	\$9.40	\$10.64
Textile, Cutting Machine Operators	\$9.72	\$11.49	\$13.01
Truck Drivers, Heavy & Tractor-Trailer	\$12.90	\$17.43	\$21.75
Welders, Cutters & Solderers	\$12.30	\$14.85	\$17.09
Woodworking Machine Setters	*	*	*
Average Salary of Employees by Selected Exempt Occupations For Spartanburg Area*			
Exempt Occupations	Entry	Average	Experienced
Chemical Engineers	*	*	*
Computer Programmers	\$36,740	\$52,760	\$67,600
Engineers, NEC	\$46,640	\$53,500	\$62,540
First Line Production Man & Sup	\$32,780	\$44,180	\$54,900
Industrial Engineers	\$56,180	\$68,440	\$83,220
Mechanical Engineers	\$49,780	\$64,200	\$81,160

Source: *Occupational Wage Survey*, SC Employment Security Commission

\* Indicates Suppressed Data or Data Not Available